

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 740

By Kyle

A RESOLUTION to recognize Ms. Alicia Kathryn Cooper, 2000
Valedictorian of Craigmont High School.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause to pay tribute to those persons who, through their natural talents and unflagging commitment to academic excellence, have distinguished themselves in the classroom; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Alicia Cooper is one such exceptional student who recently was named valedictorian of the 2000 graduating class at Memphis' Craigmont High School; and

WHEREAS, through diligent study, steady composure during examinations, and unyielding commitment of time and talent, Ms. Cooper has achieved outstanding academic success, and has joined the ranks of the best and brightest students in Tennessee and our country; and

WHEREAS, in her remarkable high school career, Alicia has earned an exemplary 4.0 grade point average, while maintaining a rigorous extracurricular schedule that includes participation in Health Occupations Students of America, Ambassador Corps, Student Council, Interact Service Club, and the Communications Club; and

WHEREAS, a natural leader, Ms. Cooper has served her fellow classmates as treasurer of the Bible Club and National Junior Honor Society, in addition to meritorious service as the

Treasurer-at-Large of the Executive Council, the president and secretary of the National Honor Society, a vice president of the French Club, president of the Environmental Club, and as a member of the President's Council; and

WHEREAS, Alicia is the deserving recipient of a number of prestigious awards, including the William H. Sweet Award, and she has been named "Senior with Distinction"; and

WHEREAS, rising to the challenges of competition, Ms. Cooper took top honors at the Senate Youth Program District Competition; won the Geography Fair Grand Prize, which qualified her for service as a student ambassador to Ireland; she has also won the Senator Jim Kyle Essay Contest. She placed second at the University of Memphis Language Fair in the presentation competition, placed sixth in the state on the National French Exam, and was a ThinkQuest Semifinalist, ranking in the top 10% internationally in the web page creation contest; and

WHEREAS, Alicia Cooper's display of intellectual aptitude and ambition surely bodes well for her future success; and

WHEREAS, a gifted athlete, Alicia has distinguished herself as an important member of the Varsity Softball Team, having been named the team's MVP during her sophomore year; the Varsity Volleyball Team, having earned All-District Team honors during her sophomore year; and the Junior Varsity Basketball Team. She set a wonderful example for her teammates on the volleyball and basketball courts as team co-captain, and she was voted Most Athletic Freshman in recognition of her amazing athletic skills; and

WHEREAS, in recognition of her many awards and accomplishments, Alicia has been listed in *Who's Who Among American High School Students* for four consecutive years, and has served astutely as a representative for Optional Schools; she has been inducted into the National Honor Society and Mu Alpha Theta Math Honor Society; was nominated to attend the National Young Leaders Conference for National Scholars and the National Youth Leadership Forum on Medicine, and attended the Tennessee Governor's School for the Health Sciences,

where she took top honors for "Best Presentation" and "Best Notebook," in addition to placing second in the "Most Creative and Proven Thesis" competition; and

WHEREAS, Alicia Cooper has also penned eloquent articles for Craigmont High School's *Skylights Journal*, *The Southeastern Planetarium Association*, and *The Commercial Appeal*; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Cooper's noteworthy achievement is a tremendous source of pride for her parents, Kathy and Jack Cooper, her school, and her community; and

WHEREAS, a civic-minded individual whose benevolent nature knows no bounds, Alicia Cooper has selflessly donated her time and talents as a volunteer for countless organizations and causes, including the Rotary Club of Memphis' Literacy Council, the Aloysius Home for homeless AIDS patients, Habitat for Humanity, Arts in the Park, Hands on Memphis, Bridge Builders Service Organization, St. Jude's Children's Hospital, the Salvation Army, Race for the Cure, and Neighborhood Beautification; and

WHEREAS, endeavoring to lead an exemplary Christian life, Ms. Cooper faithfully worships the Lord as an active and devout member of Raleigh Baptist Church, where she plays on the church softball and basketball teams; and

WHEREAS, after high school, Alicia plans to further her education by attending college and pursuing a career as an orthopedic surgeon who specializes in sports medicine; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Cooper's dedication to excellence is clearly deserving of the respect, admiration, and commendation of this legislative body; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, That we hereby commend and honor 2000 Craigmont High School Valedictorian, Ms. Alicia Kathryn Cooper, on her impressive academic achievement, and extend to her our best wishes for a happy, successful future.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.